

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

These remarks are made in response to the Office Action of November 1, 2006 (Office Action). The response is timely filed within the 30 day shortened statutory period, and, as such, no fee is believed due. However, the Office is expressly authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account 50-0951.

A restriction requirement is set forth in the Office Action requiring election of one of the following claim groupings:

Group I: Claims 1-8 and 22-29, drawn to providing authorization and security for electronic documents, classified in class 726, subclass 2.

Group II: Claim 43, drawn to using of a Boolean operation for identifying electronic documents, classified in class 707, subclass 2.

Applicant elects Group I (Claims 1-8 and 22-29) for prosecution. Withdrawal of the outstanding restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121 and examination on the merits is respectfully requested. Applicants respectfully assert, however, that the withdrawal of Claim 43 is not to be construed as a surrender of any subject matter in the instant application, and Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue protection for the subject matter of the withdrawn claim in one or more divisional patent applications.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner call the undersigned if it is believed that the above restriction election is incomplete or in any way improper. Applicant also requests that the Examiner call the undersigned if it is believed that a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the above-identified application to an allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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